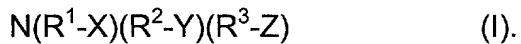


ABSTRACT

A reagent for use in immunoassays reduces interference in particle agglutination assays. The reagent contains particles having covalently bound antibodies and a tertiary amine compound of formula (I):



The moieties R¹, R², and R³ are independently alkyl or alkyl ether. The moieties X, Y, and Z are independently –OH, -O-R⁴, -S-R⁴, -C(=O)-OH, -C(=O)-OR⁴, or -C(=O)-NHR⁴ (R⁴ is alkyl).